

## MONTAGNARD RELIGIOUS PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Select Cases for the US Commission on International Religious Freedom



CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH TORTURE IN VIETNAM, JUNE 2021

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
1.	A Tach (Ba Hlol), 1959 	Plei Dak To Re, Kon Ray, <b>Kon Tum</b>	Ha Mon Catholic	Bahnar	2012	11 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2023	Prison	<b>A Tach</b> was among 62 followers of the unregistered Ha Mon Catholic Church who were arrested in 2012. In May 2013 he and seven other Ha Mon Catholics were sentenced to prison for allegedly coercing thousands of followers to protest government relocation of villagers for the Plei Krong hydropower plant, affiliating with Montagnard exiles in the US, and seeking to establish an independent state. <sup>1</sup>
2.	Runh, 1979 	Plei Kret Krot, Mang Yang, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Ha Mon Catholic	Bahnar	2012	10 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2022	Prison No. 5, Thanh Hoa	House church leader <b>Runh</b> was sentenced to prison in a "mobile trial" in Gia Lai in May 2013 along with seven other Ha Mon Catholics, whose followers have protested displacement of villages for the Plei Krong hydropower dam. Their arrests and convictions were for belonging to the unregistered Ha Mon Catholic Church, which authorities called a "pagan" religion serving as a front for political activities. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Vietnam 2013 International Religious Freedom Report," <https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/222393.pdf>; "'Đạo Hà Môn' – Trò đối trá của bọn phản động FULRO" (Ha Mon – Game of FULRO Reactionaries) *Bao Moi*, June 14, 2013, <http://www.baomoi.com/Dao-Ha-Mon--Tro-doi-tra-cua-bon-phan-dong-Fulro/104/11249761.epi>; "Four Disruptive Anti-Government Leaders Sentenced to 32 Years in Prison," *Quan Doi Nhan Dan*, November 21, 2013, <http://www.qdnd.vn/qdndsite/vi-Vietnam/61/43/kinh-te-xa-hoi/bon-doi-tuong-gay-roi-chong-pha-chinh-quyen-lanh-32-nam-tu/274223.html>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
3.	A Kuin (A Quyn; Ba Chan), 1974 	Plei Ho Moong (Ha Mon), Ha Moong, Sa Thay, <b>Kon Tum</b>	Ha Mon Catholic	Bahnar	2013	9.5 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2023	Prison	Ha Mon Catholic <b>A Kuin</b> was arrested after attending a prayer gathering at the Ha Mon holy site in his village of Ho Moong (Ha Mon) in Kon Tum, where villagers have protested construction of a hydroelectric plant. Authorities accused him of attempting to establish an independent state for ethnic minority people by spreading "pagan" Ha Mon Catholicism. <sup>3</sup>
4.	Kpuih Khuong, 1962 	Plei Kenh San, Chu Puh, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2014	11 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2025	Prison	A leader of the banned Dega Protestant religion, <b>Kpuih Khuong</b> was imprisoned in 2014 on accusations that he organized meetings to build support for Dega Protestantism and FULRO, a Montagnard resistance movement that died out in the early 1990s. He was also accused of informing overseas contacts about Montagnard prisoners of conscience. He was forced to confess on state-run television. <sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. State Department, "International Religious Freedom Report for 2014: Vietnam," <https://2009-2017.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/2014religiousfreedom/index.htm#wrapper>; "Xét xử lưu động các đối tượng tà đạo 'Hà Môn'" ("Mobile Trial of Pagan 'Ha Mon'") *Bao Gia Lai*, September 15, 2014, <http://www.baogialai.com.vn/channel/1602/201409/xet-xu-luu-dong-cac-doi-tuong-ta-dao-ha-mon-2338425/>

<sup>4</sup> "Phá tổ chức phản động, đem lại bình yên buôn làng" (Breaking Reactionary Organizations, Bringing Peace to the Village), ANTV, March 26, 2014, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/anninhtrattu/pha-to-chuc-phan-dong-dem-lai-binh-yen-buon-lang/4203.html>; "Gia Lai: 28 năm tù cho 3 đối tượng phá hoại chính sách đoàn kết," ANTV, September 30, 2014, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/anninhtrattu/gia-lai-28-nam-tu-cho-3-doi-tuong-pha-hoai-chinh-sach-doan-ket/74849.html>; "Phá hoại đại đoàn kết - thân tù tội, gia đình ly tán" (Undermining Solidarity, Jailed, Separated from Families), Congly.com, September 30, 2014, <http://toatuyenanhinhhsu.blogspot.com/2014/09/pha-hoai-ai-oan-ket-than-tu-toi-gia-inh.html>; See also: <http://toatuyenanhinhhsu.blogspot.com/2014/09/pha-hoai-ai-oan-ket-than-tu-toi-gia-inh.html>; <http://www.gialaitv.vn/article/107639/28-nam-tu-danh-cho-3-doi-tuong-pha-hoai-chinh-sach.aspx>

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5.	A Jen (1984) 	Thôn 5, Dak To Re, Kon Ray, <b>Kon Tum</b>	Ha Mon Catholic	Bahnar	2015	9 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	<b>A Jen</b> was among five Ha Mon Catholics arrested in October 2015 for propagating the Ha Mon religion. According to the indictment, after the government launched a campaign to eliminate the “pagan” Ha Mon religion, the group fled to the forest, where they allegedly took direction from FULRO members abroad seeking to establish an independent state. <sup>5</sup>
6.	A Tik, 1952 	Kon Hram, Dak To Re, Kon Ray, <b>Kon Tum</b>	Ha Mon Catholic	Bahnar	2015	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2023	Prison	<b>A Tik</b> was among five Ha Mon Catholics arrested in October 2015 for propagating the Ha Mon religion. According to the indictment, after the government launched a campaign to eliminate the “pagan” Ha Mon religion, the group fled to the forest, where they allegedly took direction from FULRO members abroad seeking to establish an independent state. In 2017, <b>A Tik</b> made a forced confession on state-run television. <sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> “Gia Lai: Xét xử các đối tượng phá hoại chính sách đoàn kết dân tộc” (Trial of Subjects Destructive of National Unity Policy), ANTV, April 27, 2016, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/tin-tuc/an-ninh-trat-tu/gia-lai-xet-xu-cac-doi-tuong-pha-hoai-chinh-sach-doan-ket-dan-toc-187306.html> ; Gia Lai TV, April 28, 2016, <http://gialaitv.vn/tin-tuc/tin-dia-phuong/xet-xu-cac-doi-tuong-pha-hoai-chinh-sach-doan-ket-dan-toc/>

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
7.	Ksor Phit (Ama Yem), 1970 	Plei H'Ra, Ia Hla, Chu Puh, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	11 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2027	Prison	Jarai Protestant deacon <b>Ksor Phit</b> was arrested in 2016 for allegedly encouraging people to join the Dega Protestant church. He was accused of establishing local level FULRO organizations and inciting people to join efforts to establish a "Dega State". Among the crimes listed in his indictment was urging people to pray at home for a "Dega State". Ksor Phit was previously imprisoned for eight years for participating in Montagnard social justice protests. <sup>7</sup>
8.	Siu Dik (Ama Map), 1973 	Plei Tai Per, Ia Hla, Chu Puh, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	Jarai Protestant deacon <b>Siu Dik</b> was arrested in 2016 for allegedly encouraging people to join the Dega Protestant Church. He was accused of establishing local level FULRO organizations and inciting people to join efforts to establish a "Dega State". Among the crimes listed in his indictment was urging people to pray at home for a "Dega State". Siu Dik was previously detained for seven months for hiding and feeding Montagnard activists in hiding. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> "Hai đối tượng FULRO lãnh án (Two FULRO Subjects Sentenced), *Bao Gia Lai* online newspaper, August 31, 2016, <http://baogialai.com.vn/channel/1602/201608/hai-doi-tuong-fulro-lanh-an-2449313/>; for indictment see <http://www.antv.gov.vn/tin-tuc/an-ninh-trat-tu/boc-go-2-nhom-doi-tuong-hoat-dong-fulro-186173.html>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
9.	Siu Doang, 1987 	Plei Bo 2, Ia Phang, Chu Puh, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	Jarai house church leader <b>Siu Doang</b> was arrested in 2016 and accused of inciting villagers to join Dega Protestantism as a front for FULRO separatist activities. He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment in July 2016, after being forced to confess on state-run television. <sup>9</sup>
10.	Ksor Pup (Ama H'Yung), 1962 	Plei Ia Phang, Chu Puh, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	<b>Ksor Pup</b> , a Jarai house church leader, was arrested in 2016 and accused of inciting villagers to join Dega Protestantism as a front for FULRO separatist activities. He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment in July 2016, after being forced to confess on state-run television. <sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> "Bóc gỡ 2 nhóm đối tượng hoạt động FULRO," ANTV, April 8, 2016, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/tin-tuc/an-ninh-trat-tu/boc-go-2-nhom-doi-tuong-hoat-dong-fulro-186173.html> ; "Xét xử 2 đối tượng phá hoại chính sách đoàn kết dân tộc" (Trial of Two Subjects Destructive of National Unity Policy), ANTV, Jul 23, 2016, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/tin-tuc/an-ninh-trat-tu/xet-xu-2-doi-tuong-pha-hoi-chinh-sach-doan-ket-dan-toc-192027.html>

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
11.	Ro Ma Daih (Ama Pon), 1989 	Plei Ia Kha, Ia Grai, Gia Lai	Protestant	Jarai	2016	10 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2026	Prison	<b>Ro Ma Daih</b> was arrested and imprisoned in 2016 for participating in independent house churches not approved by the government. He was accused of preaching Dega Protestantism in Gia Lai as a cover for restoring FULRO and communicating via cellphone and internet with FULRO exiles in the US. He was previously imprisoned for seven years for participating in Montagnard social justice protests. <sup>11</sup>
12.	Puih Bop (Ama Phun / Pon), 1959 	Plei Breng 1, Ia Der, Ia Grai, Gia Lai	Protestant	Jarai	2016	9 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2025	Prison	<b>Puih Bop</b> was arrested and imprisoned in 2016 for participating in independent house churches not approved by the government. He was accused of preaching Dega Protestantism in Gia Lai as a cover for restoring FULRO and communicating via cellphone and internet with FULRO exiles in the US. <sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> “Ngăn chặn kịp thời hoạt động chống phá Nhà nước của tổ chức ‘Tin lành Đê Ga’,” Cadn.com, September 27, 2016, <http://m.cadn.com.vn/news/ngan-chan-kip-thoi-hoat-dong-chong-pha-nha-nuoc-cua-to-chuc-tin-lanh-de-ga--155231-75>; “Serious judgment against those who destroy the policy of great national unity,” *Bao Moi / CADN*, April 7, 2017, <https://baomoi.com/ban-an-nghiem-minh-doi-voi-nhung-ke-pha-hoai-chinh-sach-dai-doan-ket-dan-toc/c/21955339.epi>; “Trial of Subjects Destructive to the Policy of National Unity,” ANTV, April 5, 2017, <http://www.antv.gov.vn/tin-tuc/phap-luat/xet-xu-cac-doi-tuong-pha-hoai-chinh-sach-doan-ket-dan-toc-206850.html>

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
13.	Ksor Kam (Ama H'Trum), 1965 	Plei Breng 2, Ia Der, Ia Grai, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	9 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2025	Prison	<b>Ksor Kam</b> was arrested and imprisoned in 2016 for participating in independent religious groups not approved by the government. He was accused of preaching Dega Protestantism in Gia Lai as a cover for restoring FULRO and communicating via cellphone and internet with FULRO exiles in the US. <sup>13</sup>
14.	Ro Lan Kly (Ama Blan), 1962 	Plei Thoong Tang, Bar Maih, Chu Se, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	<b>Ro Lan Kly</b> was arrested and imprisoned in 2016 for participating in independent religious groups not approved by the government. He was accused of preaching Dega Protestantism in Gia Lai as a cover for restoring FULRO and communicating via cellphone and internet with FULRO exiles in the US. <sup>14</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

No.	Name and Year of Birth	Home Address	Religion	Montagnard Ethnicity	Most Recent Arrest	Sentence and Charge	Projected / Actual Year of Release	Current Status	Comments
15.	Dinh Nong (Ba Pol), 1963 	Plei Jri, Bo Ngoong, Chu Se, <b>Gia Lai</b>	Protestant	Jarai	2016	8 years, Article 87 (116), plus 3-5 years' probation	2024	Prison	<b>Dinh Nong</b> was arrested and imprisoned in 2016 for participating in independent religious groups not approved by the government. He was accused of preaching Dega Protestantism in Gia Lai as a cover for restoring FULRO and communicating via cellphone and internet with FULRO exiles in the US. <sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.